

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2330

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DEPARTMENT PASS TREASURY AND ACTION AGENCIES

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: USSAEC

SUBJECT: ECONOMIC COMMISSION: GENERAL OPERATING PROCEDURES

REF: A) JIDDA 6088; B. JIDDA 6041; C. MEMO DATED 8/19/75

FROM NEA/BLC

1. SUMMARY: EMBASSY WAS PLEASED TO RECEIVE A COPY OF REF C. THIS IS

A GOOD BEGINNING TOWARD DEFINING PROPER PROCEDURES THROUGH WHICH A PROJECT MUST MOVE FROM CONCEPTION TO FINAL APPROVAL. WE HOPE THAT DEPARTMENT WILL BEGIN TO PASS US MORE SUCH COMMUNICATIONS SO THAT EMBASSY INPUT CAN REACH WASHINGTON IN TIME TO BE USEFUL. END SUMMARY

2. FOLLOWING ARE SPECIFIC CHANGES EMBASSY WOULD LIKE TO SEE INSTALLED IN STEPS LEADING TOWARD PROJECT APPROVAL:

I. STATE IS TASKED WITH SOLICITING EMBASSY COMMENTS BEFORE ACTION BY THE INTERAGENCY ACTION GROUP. THIS IS IN AGREEMENT WITH PREVIOUS STIPULATION THAT EMBASSY APPROVAL WILL BE REQUESTED BEFORE ANY SURVEY TZAM OR OTHER GROUP OR INDIVIDUALS ARE DISPATCHED TO SAUDI ARABIA.

II. THE EMBASSY SEES NO REASON FOR EITHER TREASURY OR THE EMBASSY TO BE REPRESENTED ON A SURVEY TEAM. TREASURY WILL BE REPRESENTED BY USREP/JECOR MONITORS.

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USREP/JECOR WILL SIMULTANEOUSLY REPRESENT THE EMBASSY.

THE DIRECTOR IS A MEMBER OF THE COUNTRY TEAM OPERATING UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE AMBASSADOR. OPERATION OF USREP/JECOR WILL OF COURSE, REQUIRE CLOSE LIAISON WITH THE EMBASSY, ESPECIALLY ON POLITICAL ASPECTS OF ANY SURVEY, BUT THE COUNTRY TEAM CONCEPT WILL PROVIDE THE APPROPRIATE FRAMEWORK FOR CLOSE COOPERATION WITHOUT SECOND GUESSING. TERMS OF REFERENCE SHOULD BE PREPARED BY USREP/JECOR BEFORE THE ARRIVAL OF ANY SURVEY TEAM, HOWEVER. THE SURVEY TEAM ITSELF SHOULD THEN PROVIDE A DRAFT PROJECT PROPOSAL WHICH WOULD GO INTO MORE DETAIL THAN TERMS OF REFERENCE. THAT PROJECT PROPOSAL SHOULD BE CIRCULATED FOR COMMENT BY THE IAG, WITH THE EXPRESS PROVISION THAT IT SHOULD BE SENT DIRECTLY BY CABLE TO THE EMBASSY FOR COMMENT (IF THE SURVEY TEAM WAS UNABLE TO PREPARE A DRAFT AND LEAVE A COPY FOR THE EMBASSY BEFORE LEAVING THE KINGDOM). EMBASSY COMMENT ON POSSIBLE PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION IN THE SAUDI ENVIRONMENT WILL BE IMPORTANT AT THIS STAGE. TEN WORKING DAYS WOULD BE AN ACCEPTABLE TIME FRAME WITHIN WHICH COMMENTS WOULD BE SUBMITTED ASSUMING THAT THE DRAFT IS FORWARDED PROMPTLY BY CABLE TO THE EMBASSY. IF THIS IS NOT DONE, MORE TIME MUST BE ALLOWED FOR EMBASSY TO RECEIVE PROPOSAL AND DIGEST IT.

III. NO COMMENT

IV. TIMING IS VERY IMPORTANT IN SUBMISSION OF FORMAL APPROVAL OF DRAFT PROJECT AGREEMENT. EMBASSY MUST RECEIVE DRAFT PROMPTLY BY CABLE IF IT IS TO REPLY WITHIN 10 DAYS.

V. EMBASSY AGREES NEGOTIATION OF FINAL AGREEMENT SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN BY USREP RIYADH. HOWEVER, THE AGREEMENT SHOULD ALSO BE SIGNED BY EITHER THE AMBASSADOR OR BY THE USREP DIRECTOR AS AMBASSADOR'S REPRESENTATIVE UNDER COUNTRY TEAM. AS ACTION AGENCIES WILL RECALL, THE TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT, UNDER WHICH THE JOINT COMMISSION OPERATES, WAS SIGNED BY THE AMBASSADOR.

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ACTION REQUESTED: DEPARTMENT IS REQUESTED TO INITIATE ACTION TO INCLUDE ABOVE CHANGES AND COMMENTS IN AGREED ON STEPS REQUIRED FOR PROJECT APPROVAL.
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